

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16, 18-22, and 24 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 1, 7, 13, 15, 19 and 21 are amended and new claims 25-28 are added by way of this amendment. All pending claims are believed to be allowable over the references cited by the Examiner as discussed below. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for the present application is respectfully requested.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12-13, 18-19, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over May and Hornbeck.

Each of independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 is amended to generally recite that the SLM simultaneously directs the radiation in multiple directions to control the pattern and directions of electron beams emitted by the photocathode. In contrast, May's system relies on voltage to direct electron beams after they have been generated by the photocathode in order to control the pattern and directions of the electron beams.

Thus May, either alone or in combination with Hornbeck, fails to disclose or suggest an SLM that simultaneously modulates the directions of the radiation to produce multiple electron beams whose directions are controlled by the SLM as generally recited in each of the independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 19.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 as well as claims dependent variously therefrom under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over May and Hornbeck and further in view of Engstrom or Brandes.

However, dependent claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, and 20-22 are allowable at least because the independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 from which they variously depend are allowable as discussed above. Thus withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**New Claims 25-28**

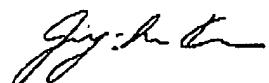
New claims 25-28 are also believed to be allowable at least because the independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 from which they variously depend are allowable as discussed above.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter accompanying this document is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 and/or any other relief is required, Applicant hereby petitions for any required relief including Extensions of Time and/or any other relief and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1217 (Order No. AMATP010).

Respectfully submitted,



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